UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency Washington, DC 20250 **Notice LD-497**

For: State and County Offices

LMAAP Year 2 Relief Procedures

Approved by: Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs

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1 Overview

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Background

Notice LD-495 informed State and County Offices that there will be a relief period for LMAAP Year 2. County Offices were informed to await forthcoming details and relief procedures.

B Purpose

This notice provides:

- the signup period for producers applying for Year 2 relief
- procedures for sheep and lamb producers to obtain a relief payment for:
 - slaughter lambs
 - · feeder lambs.

2 Applying for LMAAP Year 2 Relief

A

Relief Period

Relief is authorized for eligible sheep and lamb producers who marketed slaughter lambs and feeder lambs from August 1, 2000, through September 10, 2000.

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Signup Period

Eligible sheep and lamb operations have 60 calendar days to apply for Year 2 relief. The signup period will begin on December 1, 2000, and end on January 31, 2001.

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Disposal Date	Distribution
August 1, 2001	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

2 Applying for Year 2 LMAAP Relief (Continued)

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How to Apply

Sheep and lamb operations eligible for relief may apply for benefits by submitting FSA-383 to the local County Office as follows:

- in person
- by mail.

Note: Producers may have marketed lambs more than once during the relief period. Therefore, a separate application must be filed for each marketing period.

D Deadline

To be considered eligible for a LMAAP Year 2 relief payment, all applications must be completed correctly, signed, and returned to the applicable County Office by COB January 31, 2001.

3 Slaughter Lamb Relief Procedures

A Slaughter Lamb Relief Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for a slaughter lamb payment for relief, a sheep and lamb operation must:

- have marketed slaughter lambs during August 1, 2000, through September 10, 2000
- have owned the lambs in the normal course of raising lambs for slaughter for at least 30 calendar days continuously before marketing for slaughter
- be engaged in the business of producing and marketing agricultural products at the time the application is filed
- submit appropriate documentation according to subparagraph E
- make application during the Year 2 relief signup period
- not have previously applied for a slaughter lamb payment during the relief period.

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3 Slaughter Lamb Relief Procedures (Continued)

B

Slaughter Lamb Payment Factor

Sheep and lamb operations meeting the eligibility requirements in subparagraph A may receive a slaughter lamb payment based on 32 percent of the lambs marketed for slaughter.

This percentage was based on the average rate of qualifying slaughter lambs during the month of August that met the slaughter lamb carcass criteria, according to 7 CFR 784.8.

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Slaughter Lamb Payment Rate

A sheep and lamb operation meeting the eligibility requirements in subparagraph A may receive \$5 per slaughter lamb, limited by the 32 percent payment factor in subparagraph B.

D Example

A producer meeting the eligibility requirements marketed 100 slaughter lambs during the relief period. Therefore, 32 percent of the 100 lambs (32 lambs) marketed for slaughter would qualify for a slaughter lamb relief payment. Multiplied by the payment rate of \$5 per slaughter lamb, the producer would receive a \$160 payment.

Apply normal rounding procedures according to 1-CM.

E Required Documentation

A sheep and lamb operation applying for a slaughter lamb relief payment must:

- apply on FSA-383
- provide as documentation any or all of the following:
 - marketing receipts
 - invoices from lamb slaughter facility
 - other documentation as determined by STC or COC.

The required documentation, as proof of marketing, should contain the following information:

- the name of the slaughter facility
- the number of lambs slaughtered or marketed
- the date of slaughter or marketing.

4 Feeder Lamb Relief Payment

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Relief Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for a feeder lamb payment for relief, sheep and lamb operations must:

- have marketed feeder lambs during August 1, 2000, through September 10, 2000
- have owned the feeder lambs in the normal course of raising lambs for slaughter for at least 30 calendar days continuously before marketing
- have had in 1999 a gross annual revenue of \$2.5 million or less
- be engaged in the business of producing and marketing agricultural products at the time the application is filed
- submit appropriate documentation according to subparagraph E
- make application during the Year 2 relief signup period
- not have previously applied for a feeder lamb payment during the relief period.

B Relief Self-Certification

Sheep and lamb operations meeting the eligibility requirements in subparagraph A may self-certify to the number of feeder lambs marketed during the relief period.

Producers making application for relief shall complete FSA-383, according to the following:

- write "Self-Certified for Relief" across Part C
- enter in Part D, item 24:
 - the date the feeder lambs were marketed during the relief period
 - the number of qualifying head of feeder lambs marketed during the relief
- re-enter in Part E, item 27, the dates the feeder lambs were marketed during the relief period
- check the appropriate box in item 28
- complete the remaining parts of the application form in their entirety, according to 10-LD, paragraph 54.

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4 Feeder Lamb Relief Payment (Continued)

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Feeder Lamb Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for a feeder lamb relief payment, the feeder lamb must have been at the time of marketing:

- thick-muscled
- large-framed.

Note: Accept producer self-certification to the number of feeder lambs meeting this criteria.

D

Feeder Lamb

A sheep and lamb operation meeting the eligibility requirements in subparagraphs B and C may receive \$3 per qualifying feeder lamb.

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Required Documentation

A sheep and lamb operation applying for a feeder lamb relief payment must provide sales documents disclosing the following:

- date of marketing
- number of feeder lambs marketed.

5 Action

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COC Action

COC's shall:

- complete and review FSA-383's for completeness and accuracy
- approve or disapprove requests for relief according to this notice
- determine whether the submitted documentation provides the appropriate information needed for a relief payment.

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5 Action (Continued)

B County Office Action

County Offices accepting applications for a LMAAP Year 2 relief payment shall:

- inform sheep and lamb operations of the relief period
- begin accepting FSA-383 applications for relief beginning December 1, 2000
- FAX a copy of applications, for feeder lamb relief payments **only**, to AMS at 202-720-1112.